# Function Statement

## Emergency Department Physiotherapist

The Statement of Duties associated with this role is generic and is used for all generic Senior Allied Health Professional positions in the Tasmanian Health Service State-wide. The purpose of this Function Statement is to give more information about the requirements of this clinical lead role. Please read this Function Statement alongside the Statement of Duties.

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| **Title** | Emergency Department Physiotherapist (EDP) |
| **Business Unit** | Tasmanian Health Service North - Physiotherapy |
| **Location** | Launceston General Hospital (LGH) / THS (N) |
| **Business Unit Description** | Our Physiotherapy department’s mission is to provide exceptional evidence-based physiotherapy services to our consumers through a workplace where staff belong, enjoy and excel. We are looking for dynamic and experienced Senior Physiotherapists to provide evidence-based physiotherapy to patients in the Emergency Department and Emergency Medical Unit at the Launceston General Hospital, in addition to supporting our team according to our departmental and broader health service values.  The Emergency Department (ED)at Launceston General Hospital services the northern and northwest community through the provision of emergency care supported by Nurses, Doctors and a broad Multidisciplinary team. An Emergency Medical Unit, embedded to the main ED, supports patients and their families by providing a comprehensive MDT assessment pathway, readying and facilitating patients for admission or discharge from LGH. The secondary physiotherapy contact role requires an experienced physiotherapist who can work independently and autonomously within this setting. They require excellent communication skills, high professional standards and the ability to work collaboratively and autonomously with primary and secondary contact clinicians in the Emergency Department.The role will involve working within a complex multidisciplinary environment to optimise patient outcomes both immediately and on discharge. The ED uses both paper-based and electronic medical records to support communication/on-going internal and external referrals and audit. |
| **Specific Duties/Responsibilities** | Within the Tasmanian Health Services Framework and in accordance with Agency Policy and Procedures the Senior Physiotherapist will: Provide comprehensive, patient centred, and targeted assessment, treatment and outcome measures of clients in the ED setting. Focussing on patients who are high risk of re-presentation, frequent presenters , the frail aged or patients with complex physical or social co-morbidities. This will include providing input, consultation and advice to the medical and nursing team to facilitate optimal medical management to facilitate patient flow.  Provide evidence physiotherapy assessment, treatment and management across other clinical presentations and populations within the Emergency Department including but not limited to Stroke and Neurology, Acute Cardiorespiratory, Vestibular, Musculoskeletal, Paediatrics, and Geriatrics.  Provide follow up physiotherapy input through the outpatient physiotherapy department or through home visits for clients requiring immediate and short-term management following Emergency Department discharge.  Work closely with:   * + the Primary Contact Physiotherapists (PCPs) and Clinical Lead Physiotherapists to develop high quality secondary contact services the Emergency Department, Emergency Medical Unit and Outpatient Physiotherapy Department.   + the Hospital Aged care Liaison Team for the development of treatment and discharge plans for elderly and frail patients. Offer strategies and support for daily patient caseload management and HALT service delivery.   + Internal and external stakeholders to ensure reduction in re-presentations by targeted and adequate follow-up interventions. Ensuring timely referrals to appropriate services; including medical/nursing/allied health and community supports.   + the Emergency Department Complex Care Co-ordinator to identify and alert of potential patients requiring an immediate and comprehensive MDT approach and management strategies for on-going care within the community to reduce re-occurring and un-necessary patient re-presentations   + the Community based and THS teams to support safe and successful journey planning and discharges, including but not limited to NDIS, aged care services and other support networks.   Have sound knowledge of the community services available within the North and facilitate robust referral pathways to ensure both safe and timely patient discharges from ED, thus minimising potentials for patient re-presentation.  Demonstrate excellent verbal and written communication skill with both internal and external stakeholders, whilst demonstrating the ability to independently manage and prioritise a complex caseload.  The ability to work effectively, efficiently and collaboratively in a dynamic multidisciplinary environment, providing novel solutions to complex care required for Emergency Department patients  Provide clinical leadership, supervision and professional support to the broader Multidisciplinary teams through education and promotion of physiotherapy within the EDP setting.  Contribute effectively to the team’s learning culture, quality improvement and service development activities.  Support physiotherapy colleagues, allied health assistants, and undergraduate students in the designated area of Emergency Department Physiotherapy and associated areas. |
| **Preferred Experience** | Minimum five years’ experience as a physiotherapist.  Broad range of physiotherapy experience including emergency, musculoskeletal, neurology, vestibular, aged care, rehabilitation and cardio respiratory.  Diverse and recent experience in the public healthcare setting  Desirable – Experience working within an ED setting. |
| **Preferred Skills**  **(see Statement of Duties)** | Please see selection criteria in the Statement of Duties |